NEWS OF THE WEST.

Death from Gangrenous Blood Poisoning After a Shooting Affray.

BIG PLACER MINING OPERATIONS.

Heavy Shipments of Potatoes East.—A Mill Operated by Electricity.—Other Items.

De Lamar (Idaho) August. John McGinnis, the big timekeeper who was shot through the side by Hooper Bill Jr. Nelson in the night of November 9, died from gangrenous blood poisoning in the Wonder.

J. M. Freeman, who was awaiting trial at Cedar City, Utah, for cattle stealing, and A. H. Hamilton, both of Kanab, eight miles and grade lower, broke jail on Sunday morning and got away, taking with them our pistols from the sheriff's office.

A company headed by Arpin, Ohio capitalists, purchased neighboring placer mining ground in the Fort Mile district in the vicinity of Boise, 100 miles south of Boise, at an early date. The first work will be the erection of a dredge which is estimated will cost $20,000.

William Melnick, a young man of 19, who hitched in the jets under Wm. Hendricks of Sevier on Sunday, at 7 o'clock, Oct. 7, inflicting a wound that will unquestionably prove serious. In equipment the shooting was accidental, as Mr. H. is a very good and industrious young man, who regretfully would have no reason for taking his life.

The Sheridan (Wyo.) Fuel company has building a large mining industry in that vicinity with the past year. This company began developing a vein cropping near mine west of Sheridan on the line of the Burlington railroad in October, 1893. The output is a fine quality of semi-lite coal, and the company has expended no difficulty in introducing it to the trade in northern Wyoming and western Nebraska.

The two strings of ten and eleven, respectively, which went to Salt Creek last week with sheep, are daily expected to win Dubois pound pounds of lettuce, say the Casper (Wyo.) Derrick. The officers are at work putting up a new derrick and preparing for work on a new oil well for the Pennsylvania oil syndicate. Other companies are arranging to drill steadily through the winter and it is certain that at least a dozen wells will go down before spring.

The "Big Boy" mill, near Telluride, Colo., is now operated by electricity. 125-horse power will run for the six Huntington mill, with vanners and concentrating tables. The installation of the new motor will enable the mill to treat about 200 tons of ore per day, and a commodious boiler of substantial construction will supply it for many years. Work in full operation the "Big Boy" will be among the heavy gold producers and one of the most profitable.

The shipment of potatoes east from Idaho, says the Laramie Boomerang, by the Union Pacific is very heavy. The rate is 30 cents to Omaha and 72 cents to Chicago. A few days ago the Union Pacific loaded 800,000 pounds of potatoes at Idaho Falls and twenty cars of spuds have been sent east from this point alone. The potatoes are the finest quality and bring big prices in the eastern markets. There is a surplus of over 1,000 cars of potatoes at present at Idaho Falls and Market Lake, but will be shipped in a few weeks, as orders come in rapidly.

The Mountain Home Republican says: Sam Bateman was in from Rimbrem Monday with a load of apples. He tells us that the artesian well which Mr. Dodge is sinking on the Bateman ranch is now down 265 feet and a strong flow of water is coming to the surface. The well will be enlarged from its present size, 2 inches, to 4 inches, and will be sunk considerable deeper with the hope of striking a still better flow of water. The people over there are highly elated over the recent strong showing, and about 2,000 acres of land have been taken up in that vicinity since Mr. Dodge first struck water.

A NEVADA JOKE.

How a Wag Fooled Some Eastern Visiting Sportsmen.

Nothing can be more interesting to an ordinary man than the fate of practical jokers. Shooters and sportsmen generally will appreciate the latest joke in Eureka, Nev. Bent on hunting game, a visitor held forth in his hotel with regard to his ability to bring quail to earth. Among the audience was a wag, who, being a sport himself, was desirous of testing the foreigner's ability as a shot.

"We do not shoot quail," said he, "we bag them, and if you want to go out you may do so tonight and see better fun than any gun can furnish."

Among the old and choice gamesters journeyed out from a small hotel in Nevada to see the extraordinary plan by which quail could be "bagged" at night time. The party walked two miles into the hills and arranged a trap by laying down 50 pieces of candle in V shape. "This trap," they explained, "we drive the quail, and one of us holds a sack at the end of the V, into which the quail run." By a previous arrangement an argument was commenced as to who should have the honor of holding the sack and securing the birds while the remainder did the hard work of driving them toward the trap.

When the point was apparently settled, one of the party said: "No, this is not fair. Mr. ——— is your guest, and so each is entitled to hold the sack." Generously enough, to the hunting sportsmen was given the honor of holding a big bonnet in the mouth to a loop so as to catch the birds. All the others left to beat up quail. For three hours the visitor faithfully held that sack, and when the last candle burned out he found himself in the midst of a lonely valley, which was full of deserted shafts and other dangerous holes, two miles from any house and surrounded by a darkness which resembles a sack of black ass. When he arrived at the hotel and found that his companions had been there enjoying the joke for hours, he simply went to bed and wept. He sold his gun next morning and left for California — a state where, he says, "people would not do such a thing."—San Francisco Call.

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